Health Forum in its volume 10 released on 11.7.2006 has published an article 'Human Resources for Health in India's National Rural Health Mission-Dimensions and Challenges'. The article mentioned that nearly 700 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are currently without doctors. The existing Community Health Centres (CHCs) have high shortfall of specialists manpower, such as obstetricians and hynecologists (56%), pediatricians (67%), surgeions (56%) and medical specialist (59%) with no sanctioned provisions of anesthetists.

Outpatient services are being strenthened through regular recruitment/appointment of doctors/paramedicals on contractual basis, posting of AYUSH doctors, local recruitment of Nurses/Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), multiskilling and training of doctors in specialized skills, running facilities with the help of Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) taken up in all States of the country.

Success of Universal Immunisation Programme

†2350. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Universal Immunisation Programme in the States has been successful;

(b) if so, whether the mortaility rate has declined as a result thereof; and

(c) if not, the efforts being made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The infant mortality rate has declined from 66 per 1000 live birth in 2001 to 58 per 1000 live birth in 2004.

Cardio Cadre in RML Hospital

2351. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether how many doctors belonging to cardio cadre are available in Delhi together with their details;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.